

## Drainage law and transportation: a manual for Iowa

THE CENTER for Transportation Research and Education is developing a manual addressing laws, regulations, and concerns related to drainage in Iowa from a transportation perspective. Your input is critical to the success of this project.

This comprehensive reference will serve a wide range of users, from engineers and drainage district officials to landowners and the general public. It will include

- an annotated presentation of Iowa Code and case law provisions,
- a compilation of frequently encountered questions regarding drainage issues, and

- a series of actual “case studies” with applied solutions.

CTRE is developing a brief, straightforward survey to gather information and advice from counties, larger cities, drainage districts, Iowa DOT, consulting engineers, and other potential users of this manual. When you receive the survey in the mail, please complete and return it promptly.

If you have any questions about this project or the survey, contact Tom McDonald, safety circuit rider, 515-294-6384, [tmcdonal@iastate.edu](mailto:tmcdonal@iastate.edu). •

## Retrofitting an LED pedestrian signal

*EDITOR'S NOTE: The “LED pedestrian signal retrofit” is one of several winning innovations from the “Better Mousetrap” competition at the Iowa Maintenance Training Expo in 2002. In each issue of Technology News we’re highlighting one of the winners. For information about other winning “mousetraps,” see CTRE’s website: [www.ctre.iastate.edu/](http://www.ctre.iastate.edu/) (see “Popular Links”).*

Jim DeWitt, public works crew leader for the City of Clive, wanted to make sure the city’s new LED pedestrian signals were easy to replace if and when necessary. He also didn’t want to get zapped when installing them. The way the signal heads are designed makes it a little too easy for electricity to arc between the wires and the jamb nut.

For each head, DeWitt used two strips of 1/8-inch by 12-inch by 1/2-inch plexi glass to move the terminal to the middle of the housing. The materials cost 50 cents per housing. Labor took about 15 minutes per head. The city has retrofitted 56 heads.

For more information about the retrofit process, contact Jim DeWitt, 515-223-6231, [jdewitt@ci.clive.ia.us](mailto:jdewitt@ci.clive.ia.us). •

